1203. [Transferred to 11th Sept. 91]

"Clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980"

1204. SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representation has been received by Government complaining that development works are getting delayed due to the long procedures for securing clearances under the Forest (Conservation) Act;

(b) whether any attempt has been made to fix specific time limit for giving final clearance to the proposals under the Act; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to see that development projetcs are not unduly held up under the Forest (Conservation) Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No specific time limit has been fixed for giving final clearances to the proposals under the Forest Conservation Act. However, specific time limits have been laid down at different stage to ensure speedy disposal.

(c) Powers have been delegated to the Regional Offices under the Ministry to dispose of cases involving forest diversion of less than one hectare. Relaxations and simplification in procedures have been provided for in the guidelines, thus, facilitating formulation and speedier disposals of such proposals.

Pending Proposals for Irrigation Projects in Gujarat

1205. SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of proposals which are pending under the Forest (Conservation) Act in respect of medium|minor irrigation projects in Gujarat;

(b) whether it is a fact that considerable period lapses before the necessary permission is granted by Government; and

(c) if so, whether Government intends to delegate any powers to State Governments under the said Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) 11 medium|minor irrigation projects are pending in the Ministry under the Forest (Conservation) Act as on 31-8-91.

(b) Proposals complete in all respects received from the State Governments are expeditiously cleared. However, incomplete proposals are referred back to the State Governments for furnishing the required information. This some times contributes to delay when the State Government do not furnish requisite information promptly.

(c) No, Sir.

विलम्बित पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति के कारण विकास परियोजनाओं में विलम्ब

1206. **श्री विश्वासराव राघवराव पाटिल:** क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पर्यावरणीय दृष्टि से परियोजनाओं को स्वीकृति मिलने में होने वाले विलम्ब के कारण विभिन्न विकास परियोजनाओं का कार्य प्रभावित हुआ है ; और

(ख) राज्यों से स्वीकृति के लिए 15 जून, 1991 तक कितने प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए और उन पर उनके मंत्रालय द्वारा क्या कार्रवाई की गई ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) और (ख) जी, नहीं।